

2. *A Short History of the British Ornithologists' Union.*
By P. L. SCLATER, D.Sc., F.R.S.

I.—THE FOUNDING OF THE B. O. U.

IN consequence of some of the documents relating to the early days of the British Ornithologists' Union having been lost or mislaid, it is not possible to give a complete account of the origin of the association; but it is believed that the following extracts from the Preface to the first volume of 'The Ibis' contain an accurate description of the circumstances under which the British Ornithologists' Union was formed:—

“For some years past a few gentlemen attached to the study of Ornithology, most of them more or less intimately connected with the University of Cambridge, had been in the habit of meeting together, once a year, or oftener, to exhibit to one another the various objects of interest which had occurred to them, and to talk over both former and future plans of adding to their knowledge of this branch of Natural History.

“These meetings were found agreeable by those who attended them, and gradually became more frequented. In the autumn of 1857 the gathering of naturalists was greater than it had hitherto been, and it appeared that there was a strong feeling that it would be advisable to establish a Magazine devoted solely to Ornithology.

“This feeling was not prompted by any jealousy of periodicals already existing, but by the belief that the number of persons who turned their attention principally to this one branch of Zoology was at any rate sufficiently great to justify an experiment which in a neighbouring country, and among a kindred nation, had succeeded so well.

“The meeting [which was held at Cambridge] therefore broke up with the understanding that in the following year the subject should be again considered. During the

“interval, communications were freely kept up among those who had been present, as well as with others interested in the same study, in order that the different views which prevailed on the subject might be compared, and the project thus forwarded.

“In November 1858, the annual assemblage again took place at Cambridge; and, after due consideration, it was determined by those present that a Quarterly Magazine of General Ornithology should be established, that a limited subscription should be entered into to provide a fund for that purpose, and that the subscribers should form an ‘Ornithological Union,’ their number at present not to exceed twenty.”

Although the Preface to the first volume of ‘The Ibis,’ from which the preceding extracts have been taken, was drawn up by me, and signed by me as Editor of the volume, it was revised and corrected by Alfred Newton, so that there can be no doubt that he fully approved of it. I believe it to be correct in every respect.

It has been stated by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe in his Presidential Address to the Fourth International Ornithological Congress that the first meeting of the Founders of ‘The Ibis’ took place at Canon Tristram’s house at Castle Eden. It is quite true that in those days Canon Tristram’s house was often used as an agreeable stopping-place by his ornithological friends who were passing by, and that the subject of the establishment of an Ornithological Journal might very naturally have been discussed there. But, so far as I am aware, the early meetings of the Ornithologists which ultimately led to the establishment of ‘The Ibis’ all took place at Cambridge, with the exception of one. This one was held at Leeds, where the British Association met in September 1858. An unusual number of Ornithologists were in attendance at Section D on this occasion, amongst whom were Sir William Jardine, Eyton, Simpson, Wolley, Tristram, Günther, Newton, and myself. The subject of the contemplated Journal of Ornithology was, I believe, discussed on that occasion, but it was resolved to

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- Rev. H. B. Triestram, M.A., F.L.S., Rector of Castle Eden, Durham.
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refer the decision of the matter to a meeting to be held at Cambridge in the following November.

In accordance with this agreement a meeting was held in Professor Newton's rooms at Magdalene College, Cambridge, on Wednesday, November 17th, 1858. It is much to be regretted that no formal account of this important meeting can be found, if anything of the sort was ever drawn up, of which I am by no means certain. But, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the following resolutions were discussed and adopted at that meeting:—

1. That an "Ornithologists' Union" of twenty Members should be formed, with the principal object of establishing a new Journal entirely devoted to Birds.
2. That Lt.-Col. H. M. Drummond should be the President and Professor Newton the Secretary of the Union, and that I (P. L. Selater) should edit the Journal.

Neither the exact title of the proposed Journal nor the Publisher were settled on this occasion, but these matters were left to be decided subsequently by Prof. Newton and myself.

I cannot state positively who were present at the inaugural meeting at Cambridge*, but shortly after my return to London (where I was then resident at 49 Pall Mall, with law-chambers at Lincoln's Inn) I received from Newton a list of the twenty Members of the Union, as finally decided upon, in his own handwriting.

It will be seen by the facsimile of this List, of which a copy is given herewith, that some slight alterations and additions were made to it by the "Editor" in his own handwriting. These, however, were agreed to by the "Secretary," and the List is virtually the same as that printed in the first volume of our Journal in 1859.

On returning to London after the Cambridge Meeting I lost no time in making arrangements for beginning the

* I can only say with certainty that (besides Newton and myself) Simpson, Wolley, F. D. Godman, and Salvin were present; I think Edward Taylor and Tristram were also there.

new Journal. Messrs. Triibner & Co., of Paternoster Row, with whom I was well acquainted, agreed to publish it, and Messrs. Taylor & Francis to print it. From the head of the latter firm, the late Dr. William Francis—a very capable and well-informed person,—I received the excellent suggestion to call our new bantling ‘THE IBIS,’ after the sacred bird of Egypt. I at once adopted the idea, with which Newton also was highly pleased, and we set Joseph Wolf (then in the zenith of his fame) to work to draw the well-known wood-block which appeared in the first number of ‘The Ibis’ and has ever since ornamented its cover.

At the close of 1858 I was rather pressed for time, as I had agreed to accompany my friend Edward Cavendish Taylor on an excursion to Tunis and Eastern Algeria in search of birds and eggs. Fortunately, before I had absolutely committed myself to the task of Editorship, I had secured the promises of several of my best friends to contribute articles to the first number. Osbert Salvin had agreed to join me in an article on the Ornithology of Central America, with which he had made himself well acquainted by several visits. Canon Tristram had promised me notes on the Birds of Palestine, which he had made during a recent excursion, and Taylor had agreed to work up his ornithological reminiscences of Egypt. Newton and his brother Edward offered to the new Journal their observations on the Birds of St. Croix, West Indies, which they had made in 1857, while Wolley promised me information about the breeding of the Smew in Lapland. Moreover Hewitson, who was an excellent artist, had agreed to write an article on recent discoveries in European Oology, and undertook to illustrate it by a plate of eggs drawn by his own hand. Thus I was very well supported by my friends, and encountered the somewhat severe task of commencing a new periodical with a certain amount of confidence—the more so, perhaps, as at that time I had no idea that I should shortly be asked to undertake the management of the affairs of the Zoological Society of London.

II.—THE FIRST SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1859–1864).

“Ibimus indomiti venerantes Ibida sacram,
Ibimus incolumes qua prior Ibis adest.”

(*Editor* : P. L. SCLATER.)

1859.

THE ready assistance received by the Editor in preparing the first number of 'The Ibis' has already been described. By great exertions he managed to get it ready about the middle of January 1859, and soon after left for Tunis and Algeria along with Edward Taylor and two other friends. From this pleasant place of retreat he was quickly recalled by messages from home, urging him to return at once and take up the Secretaryship of the Zoological Society, which was then about to be vacated. Somewhat unwillingly, it must be allowed, he obeyed the call, and was back in London by the end of March, hard at work on the second number of 'The Ibis,' in preparing which he had again the efficient assistance of his good friends Salvin, Newton, and Tristram. Wolley also contributed to this number a most interesting history of the breeding of the Crane in Lapland. For the third and fourth numbers of the new periodical he likewise received valuable support from his friends and correspondents. Thus he was enabled, at the close of 1859, to finish off a handsome volume of 490 pages ornamented by 15 illustrations, mostly drawn by that incomparable bird-artist, Joseph Wolf.

The General Meeting of the Members of the British Ornithologists' Union in 1859 was held in London on the 9th of November, but I regret to say that the Minutes of this Meeting, like some of the other early papers, cannot be found. The date and place of meeting are known by the allusions to it in the minutes of the General Meeting of 1860, but no further particulars are ascertainable, except that a call of £2 was made upon each Member of the Union towards the expenses of the Journal.

1860.

In 1860 the Annual General Meeting of the Union was held at Lincoln College, Oxford, on the 29th of June, with Mr. J. H. Gurney in the Chair. The accounts for 1859 were submitted to the meeting and shewed a small balance in favour of the Union, while it was announced that the first volume of 'The Ibis' was nearly out of print. Mr. R. F. Tomes was elected a Member of the Union to fill up the vacancy caused by the decease of Wolley, which had taken place on November the 20th, 1859. It was resolved that ten Honorary Members of the Union should be elected by ballot from Ornithologists not residing in the United Kingdom. Dr. G. Hartlaub, of Bremen (an old and much-valued friend), who had contributed an article to the first volume of 'The Ibis' and was at that time at Oxford on a visit, was elected the First Honorary Member, and the following nine other Ornithologists were chosen to fill the list:—

- Professor S. F. BAIRD, Washington.
- Dr. E. BALDAMUS, Osternienburg.
- Mr. E. BLYTH, Calcutta.
- Dr. J. CABANIS, Berlin.
- Mr. J. CASSIN, Philadelphia.
- Mr. E. L. LAYARD, Capetown.
- Professor J. REINHARDT, Copenhagen.
- Mons. JULES VERREAUX, Paris.
- Mr. A. R. WALLACE, East Indies.

The second volume of 'The Ibis' (for 1860) was completed by the issue of Part IV. in October. It contained 442 pages, illustrated by 15 plates. Amongst the latter is a good figure by Wolf of the Three-toed Sand-grouse (*Syrhaptus paradoxus*).

1861.

In 1861 the Annual General Meeting of the Union was held at the Zoological Society's Office, 11 Hanover Square, London, on December 11th, the President, Col. Drummond-Hay, being in the Chair. I had by that time discovered that the

work of editing 'The Ibis,' combined with the cares of the Secretaryship of the Zoological Society, was more than I could well manage, and I consequently gave notice that I was not prepared to carry on the Editorship of 'The Ibis' after the close of 1862. It was thereupon agreed that the sum of fifty pounds should be annually appropriated to editorial expenses, including the keeping of accounts, the existing management being continued.

The third volume of 'The Ibis' (for 1861) was completed in August of that year. It contained 428 pages, illustrated by 13 plates. Amongst the many interesting papers contained in it were a full account of Wolley's discovery of the breeding of the Waxwing in Lapland, drawn up by Newton from Wolley's papers, and an abstract of Wolley's researches in Iceland respecting the Great Auk, likewise prepared by Newton from Wolley's memoranda.

1862.

The Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science having been fixed to be held at Cambridge in October 1862, it was thought convenient that the Annual General Meeting of the B.O.U. should take place on the same occasion. The meeting was accordingly held at Magdalene College, Cambridge, on the 7th of October, the President, Col. Drummond-Hay, being in the Chair. At this meeting Mr. Wallace, having returned to England, was elected an Extra-Ordinary Member of the Union, and Mr. Robert Swinhoe, of Her Majesty's Chinese Consular Service, who had recently commenced the long series of papers on Chinese Ornithology which he published in 'The Ibis,' was elected an Honorary Member. The accounts having been examined and passed, it was found necessary to ask for a subscription of thirty shillings from each Member in order to meet the expenditure.

The fourth volume of the First Series of 'The Ibis' was completed in August 1862. It contained 404 pages, illustrated by 13 plates. Newton contributed to this volume his often-quoted paper "On the supposed Gular Pouch of the

Great Bustard," and George Gray sent us a Revised List of the Birds of New Zealand.

1863.

In 1863 the Annual General Meeting of the Union was held at 11 Hanover Square, London, on the 9th of December, Mr. W. H. Hawker in the Chair. The accounts for 1862 and the estimate for 1863 having been examined shewed a probable deficit at the close of 1863 of £100. The Editor announced that under these circumstances he would decline to receive the sum of £50 for his "editorial expenses" in 1864, and it was agreed that a subscription of £5 from each Member be required for that year. It was also agreed that the First Series of 'The Ibis' should be brought to a close in 1864, and that the best mode of continuing the Journal should be specially considered at a General Meeting to be held in May 1864.

The fifth volume of the First Series of 'The Ibis' (1863) was published in October of that year. It contained 498 pages, illustrated by 13 plates. Among other papers of special interest was Swinhoe's first article on Formosan Ornithology, which was illustrated by a plate of *Circus spilonotus* drawn by Wolf. Swinhoe included 201 species in the list of Formosan Birds then known to him.

1864.

In accordance with a motion carried at the Annual General Meeting of 1863, a Special Meeting of the B. O. U. was held at 11 Hanover Square, London, on the 20th of May, 1864. Col. Drummond-Hay, the President, was in the Chair, and twelve other Members were present. The preliminary business having been transacted, the Editor stated that, in accordance with the notice that had been given at the previous Meeting in 1863, he could not undertake to carry on the Editorship of 'The Ibis' after the completion of the volume for 1864. It was then proposed by Lord Lilford, and carried unanimously, that a Second Series of 'The

Ibis' should be commenced under the Editorship of Alfred Newton. Newton (as already arranged beforehand) accepted the proposed Editorship and vacated the office of Secretary, to which Salvin was elected. It was also agreed that an annual subscription of thirty shillings should be paid by every Member of the B. O. U. in aid of the new Series.

Another very important alteration in our Rules (which had, however, been previously well discussed amongst us) was finally agreed upon at this Meeting, namely that the restriction of the number of Members of the Union to twenty should no longer be maintained, and that any number of additional Members might be elected by ballot, provided that their names had been inserted in the notice convening the Meeting. The result, under this Rule, has been that the number of Ordinary Members, formerly only 20, has now gradually risen to 435!

A second General Meeting of the Union was held in 1864 on the 9th of November, at 11 Hanover Square, London, Canon Tristram in the Chair, at which, in accordance with the new Rule passed at the previous Meeting, nine new Ordinary Members of the B. O. U. were proposed and elected. It was also agreed that Honorary Members of the Union who came to reside permanently in the United Kingdom might be elected Extra-Ordinary Members and that no subscription should be demanded of them. In accordance with this resolution, Edward Blyth, an Honorary Member of the Union who had come to reside in this country, was elected an Extra-Ordinary Member of the B. O. U. The vacancy thus caused in the list of Honorary Members was filled by the election of Surgeon-Major T. C. Jerdon, of the Indian Army, the author of Jerdon's '*Birds of India*.'

The fourth number of '*The Ibis*' for 1864 was issued in August of that year, and the First Series of our Journal was thus completed. The volume for 1864 contained 440 pages and 10 plates. In it will be found Prof. Newton's article on the "Irruption of Pallas's Sand-grouse in 1863." In the Preface to the volume the Editor expressed his sincere regret

that the heavy pressure of other duties had compelled him to resign his office. Such regret, however, had been much lessened by the consent of his friend Alfred Newton, who, as the readers of 'The Ibis' must be aware, was specially qualified for the post, to be his successor in the Editorship.

III.—THE SECOND SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1865-70).

"Ibidis interea tu quoque nomen habe!"

(*Editor* : ALFRED NEWTON.)

1865.

AFTER the last General Meeting in November 1864, Newton set to work at once on his new duties of editorship, and, as was to be expected, brought out his four numbers with unflinching regularity. To this volume Canon Tristram furnished an important paper on the Ornithology of Palestine—a subject that he was specially engaged upon all his working life, and which was finally expanded into his standard work on the 'Fauna and Flora of Palestine,' published in 1884. The Editor himself gave us his notes on the Birds of Spitsbergen, and Lord Lilford contributed an elegant essay on the Ornithology of Spain. Joseph Wolf, who was much under Newton's influence, was persuaded to contribute some excellent illustrations to this volume (see his figures of the Tawny Eagle and of Kriiper's Nuthatch). The volume, when completed, contained 566 pages and 11 plates.

The Annual General Meeting of the Union for 1865 was held at 11 Hanover Square, London, on the 17th of May, Viscount Walden (who had been elected a Member of the Union at the previous Meeting) being in the Chair. Five new Members of the Union were elected, amongst whom was Mr. Henry Eeles Dresser, afterwards the author of 'The Birds of Europe.' A call of £1 was made upon the Ordinary Members to pay off the debt on the First Series of 'The Ibis,' and the balance was ordered to be carried to the credit of the Second Series.

On commencing the Second Series of 'The Ibis,' the publication was transferred from N. Trübner & Co. to Van Voorst, the well-known Natural-History Bookseller of Paternoster Row, who continued to act as publisher of our Journal until his death in 1886.

1866.

In 1866 the Annual General Meeting was held at 11 Hanover Square, London, Lord Lilford in the Chair. Three new Members were elected, and the accounts for the past year, which shewed a deficit of £108, were considered. It was agreed that a subscription of £3 10s. should be called for to meet the deficiency, and that the letterpress of the future volumes of the Journal should be slightly reduced in amount in order to lessen the expense.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the General Meeting, the number of pages in 'The Ibis' for 1866 was reduced to 440. There were several communications of first-rate interest in the volume, amongst which were Godman's notes on the Birds of the Azores and Professor Owen's description of the remains of a large new extinct Parrot from the Mauritius. Blyth commenced in it a valuable commentary on Jerdon's 'Birds of India,' and Lord Lilford wrote a series of notes on Spanish Ornithology. All the beautiful plates of Birds in this volume were drawn by Joseph Wolf.

1867.

On the 27th of March, 1867, the Members of the Union again assembled for their Annual General Meeting at 11 Hanover Square, London, with Lord Lilford in the Chair. A letter from Col. H. M. Drummond-Hay stated that, owing to the distance at which he lived and his consequent inability to attend the Meetings regularly, he wished to resign the office of President. The resignation was accepted with much regret, and Lord Lilford was duly

elected President in his place. Two new Members were elected at this meeting.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1867, which was completed in October of that year, contained 490 pages and 10 plates. In it Blyth continued his valuable commentary on Jerdon's 'Birds of India,' and Edward Newton wrote an important paper on the Birds of the Seychelles Archipelago, which he had then lately visited and of which previously very little was known. Tristram and Swinhoe were both contributors to this volume. The coloured plates were mostly drawn by Wolf, in his usual excellent style.

1868.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1868 was held at 11 Hanover Square, London, where, in the absence of the President, P. L. Selater was requested to take the Chair. Six new Members were elected. The accounts shewed a deficit of only £17, and it was agreed that a subscription of £1 should be called for from each Member. It was also agreed that the number of copies of 'The Ibis' to be printed after that year should be 275 instead of 250. After the Meeting a Dinner of the Members and their friends took place in the Pall Mall Restaurant. This is the first Dinner of the B. O. U. that I can find recorded in the Minutes.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1868 was completed by the issue of the fourth number in October of that year. There were 550 pages in the volume, which was illustrated by 10 plates. Amongst the more important papers were those by Wallace on the Raptorial Birds of the Malay Archipelago and by the Rev. A. C. Smith on the Birds of Portugal.

1869.

In 1869 the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. was again held at 11 Hanover Square, London, with P. L. Selater in the Chair, in the absence of the President. Dr. A. von Pelzeln, of Vienna, was elected an Honorary Member of

the Union, in the place of Mr. John Cassin, deceased; and Mr. Allan Octavian Hume, C.B., was elected an Ordinary Member. The subscription for the year was fixed at £1, and it was agreed that an entrance-fee of £2 should be required from all Members elected after that meeting. The subsequent Dinner took place at the Pall Mall Restaurant.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1869, being the fifth of the Second Series, contained 478 pages, illustrated by 16 plates. Amongst the articles was an important paper by von Heuglin on the Malurinae of North-eastern Africa, which was illustrated by 3 plates. In this volume also the Editor gave an account of the Strickland Collection of Birds, which had been lately presented by Strickland's widow to the University of Cambridge.

1870.

On the 11th of May, 1870, Lord Lilford (the President) took the Chair at the Annual General Meeting, which was held at 11 Hanover Square, 15 Members being present. The accounts for 1869 showed a deficit of £67 10s., which, however, was more than covered by the subscriptions in arrear, and it was agreed that the subscription for 1870 should be £1. Ten new Members were elected, amongst whom were Howard Saunders, Capt. Shelley, Major Irby, and Sir Victor Brooke. Prof. Newton gave notice of his resignation of the Editorship of 'The Ibis' at the end of the current year, and Osbert Salvin was elected Editor in his place, to commence a Third Series in 1871.

Salvin, having accepted the Editorship, resigned the office of Secretary at the close of the year, and Mr. F. D. Godman was appointed in his place.

A Committee, consisting of the President, the Secretary, the late and the new Editors, and Lord Walden, was appointed to draw up a Code of Rules for the B. O. U. After the meeting the usual Dinner took place at the Pall Mall Restaurant.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1870 was duly completed in

October of that year by the issue of the fourth number of the Second Series. It contained 558 pages, illustrated by 15 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemaus (who had then lately arrived from Holland) in his very best style. Among the most noticeable contributions to this volume were Claude Wyatt's account of the Birds of Sinai, Swinhoe's narrative of his expedition to Hainan and list of its Birds, and Prof. Newton's Catalogue of the existing remains of *Alca impeunis*. Newton recorded 71 or 72 skins, 9 skeletons, detached bones of 38 or 41 different birds, and 65 eggs as known to him in 1870. The volume for 1870 concluded with a General Index to the Second Series.

The roll of Members of the B. O. U. in 1870 contained the names of 49 Ordinary Members, 2 Extra-Ordinary Members, and 10 Honorary Members.

IV.—THE THIRD SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1871-76).

“Ibidis auspicio novus incipit Ibidis ordo!”

(*Editor* : OSBERT SALVIN.)

1871.

I THINK I may fairly say that some of the leading Members of the Union were not altogether pleased when Newton announced his determination to give up the Editorship of 'The Ibis' after the conclusion of the Second Series. We were, however, much comforted at having a fully competent person ready to undertake the work. Osbert Salvin was equally good as a naturalist in the field and at his desk, and was (*omnium consensu*) in every respect well qualified for the post.

The Annual General Meeting for 1871 was held at 11 Hanover Square, London, on the 10th of May. In the absence of the President, P. L. Selater was in the Chair. Fourteen Members were present. Five new Members were elected, amongst whom was Richard Bowdler Sharpe, then of Tower House, Caversham Road, London, proposed by Viscount Walden. The Committee appointed in 1870 to

draw up a code of Rules for the Union presented their Report, and the rules that they proposed were adopted with a few verbal alterations. They were to all intents and purposes the same as those now in force, which are given at the end of this Short History. The accounts for 1870 (shewing a balance of £100 in hand) were passed, and a subscription of £1 1s. was ordered for 1871.

The first volume of the Third Series of 'The Ibis,' when completed, contained 501 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans and Smit. Amongst the articles were Howard Saunders's account of the Birds of Southern Spain, and Capt. Shelley's contributions to the Ornithology of Egypt. Wyatt also gave an interesting account of his short expedition to the United States of Colombia.

1872.

In 1872 the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. took place at 11 Hanover Square, London, on the 8th of May, Viscount Walden in the Chair. Five new Ordinary Members, one Honorary Member (Dr. O. Finsch of Bremen), and fifteen Foreign Members were ballotted for and elected. The accounts, shewing a slight excess of income over expenditure, were passed, and the usual Dinner at the Pall Mall Restaurant was held after the Meeting.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1872, being the second of the Third Series, contained 491 pages, illustrated by 15 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Amongst other interesting articles in this volume will be found an account by Capt. Shelley and Mr. T. E. Buckley of their two months' bird-collecting on the Gold Coast.

1873.

In 1873 the Annual General Meeting of the Union was held on April 2nd, at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, in some rooms rented in the name of Mr. H. E. Dresser, which were then the frequent resort of Lord Lilford, Salvin, Godman, Shelley, Tristram, and other Members of the Union.

Viscount Walden was in the Chair. The accounts were passed, and ten new Members were elected. Amongst the Ordinary Members who joined us on that day we find the names of Blanford, Harvie-Brown, Col. Feilden, Garrod, and Seebohm. Robert Collett, of Christiania, was elected a Foreign Member.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1873 contained 514 pages, illustrated by 15 plates, mostly the work of Keulemans. Salvin being absent in Guatemala during most of the year, Selater, who had undertaken to do his work, wrote and signed for him the Preface. Amongst other good papers in this volume, attention may be called to Lord Walden's account of the collection of birds made in the Andaman Islands by his nephew, Lt.-Col. R. Wardlaw-Ramsay, who, during a two months' visit to Port Blair, had obtained 460 specimens representing 62 species.

1874.

In 1874 the Annual General Meeting of the Union was held at 6 Tenterden Street, on the 27th of May, the President, Viscount Walden, in the Chair. Eleven new Members were elected, amongst whom were Col. Godwin-Austen and C. B. Wharton.

Salvin having returned home, a second General Meeting of the Union was held in Tenterden Street, on the 17th of June of the same year, Viscount Walden in the Chair, when the accounts of 1873 (audited by Mr. Dresser) were passed. It was agreed that authors of papers in 'The Ibis' should be entitled to have twenty-five separate copies of their papers gratis, if demanded. It was also agreed that the Editor should be requested to consider the expediency of altering the mode of reviewing ornithological literature then used in 'The Ibis.'

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1874 (being the fourth volume of the Third Series) contained 486 pages, illustrated by 14 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Amongst the articles in this volume will be found a paper by Lord Walden

on a second collection of birds made by Lt.-Col. Wardlaw-Ramsay in the Andaman Islands, and Salvin's account of his visits to the Museums of the United States.

1875.

The Annual General Meeting of the Union for 1875 was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on May 26th, Prof. Newton in the Chair. Seven new Ordinary Members were elected, and Hans, Graf von Berlepsch and the Marquis Giacomo Doria were elected Foreign Members.

It was agreed that on the close of the Third Series steps should be taken to prepare a General Index of 'The Ibis' from its commencement.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1875 contained 540 pages, illustrated by 10 plates, drawn by Keulemans and Smit.

The Preface of this volume was written and signed by the Editor, Salvin, who had returned from Guatemala, and was at that time residing at Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge.

1876.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1876 was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on Tuesday, April 18th, Lord Lilford, President, in the Chair. Eight new Ordinary Members were elected, amongst whom were H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught. The name of Mr. Swinhoe, who had taken up his residence in England, was transferred to the list of Extra-Ordinary Members.

The sixth and last volume of the Third Series of 'The Ibis' being about to be issued before the close of this year, it was proposed that Salvin should be elected Editor of a Seventh Series, to commence in 1877. Salvin, however, was at that time much pressed by other duties, and demurred to undertaking the sole responsibility of the Editorship. It was therefore ultimately agreed that P. L. Selater should be requested to become Joint Editor with Salvin of the new Series.

The sixth volume of the Third Series of 'The Ibis' (which was completed in August 1876) contained 522 pages, illustrated by 14 plates, mostly prepared by Keulemans, in his best style. Amongst other important papers, Newton contributed an article "On the Assignment of a Type to Linnean Genera," which deserves special attention, and Canon Tristram favoured us with a paper "On the Birds of the New Hebrides." Besides the ordinary Index, a General Subject-Index to the whole of the Third Series (1871-1876) was published with this volume.

Subsequently Salvin, who was much devoted to index-making, a most useful but very laborious kind of work too often neglected, prepared a General Index of the names of the Genera and Species of Birds referred to in the first three Series (1859-1876), which was printed and published in 1879.

At the termination of the Third Series of 'The Ibis' in 1876 it will be seen by the List of Members in the last volume that the Roll of the B. O. U. at that period contained the names of 89 Ordinary Members, 1 Extra-Ordinary Member, 8 Honorary Members, and 17 Foreign Members.

V.—THE FOURTH SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1877-1882).

"Ibis avis robusta et multos vivit in annos."

(*Editors* : OSBERT SALVIN and PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER.)

1877.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Union for 1877 was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on the 16th of May, 1877, Arthur, Marquis of Tweeddale, in the Chair. The accounts for 1876 were examined and passed, and 12 new Ordinary Members were elected. There was a Dinner after the Meeting at the Pall Mall Restaurant.

On the 7th of November, 1877, a Special General Meeting of the Union, called by the Committee at the request of ten Members, was held at 6 Tenterden Street to consider the rules relating to the election of new Members. P. L. Sclater

was in the Chair. After some discussion the following resolutions were agreed to:—

No person shall be balloted for whose name shall not have been proposed on a form provided by the Secretary and signed by the Proposer on his personal knowledge and by two other Members.

The List of Candidates with their proposers and seconders shall be circulated amongst the Members along with the summonses for the General Meeting.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1877 (being the first volume of the Fourth Series) contained 512 pages, illustrated by 14 plates drawn by Keulemans and Smit. Mr. C. G. Danford contributed an important paper to this volume on the Birds of Asia Minor, and Col. Feilden gave us an interesting account of the Birds observed in Smith Sound and the Polar Basin during the Arctic Expedition of 1875–1876.

1878.

In 1878 the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on the 15th of May, P. L. Selater in the Chair, when the accounts, having been examined and found correct by Mr. Seebohm, were passed. They shewed a balance in hand of £36. Nine new Members were elected, amongst whom was Mr. Henry T. Wharton, one of the principal compilers of the B. O. U. List of British Birds published in 1883.

The Dinner after the Meeting was held at the Grosvenor Restaurant, Bond Street.

The desirability of preparing and publishing a General Index of the first three Series of 'The Ibis' was discussed, and, in order to prevent any temporary embarrassment of the Union's funds, it was agreed to raise a Guarantee Fund among the Members to cover its cost, although it was expected that the amount to be received ultimately from the sale of the Index-volume would nearly suffice. It was also agreed that every guarantor should be permitted to take as many copies of the Index as he might require, up

to five copies, at £1 each, in lieu of an equivalent amount of his subscription. On this resolution being carried, 19 Members of the Union at once put down their names for five copies each.

Mr. Salvin undertook the preparation of the Index, in which task he was kindly helped by Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Salvin, Miss Salvin, Mrs. Howard Saunders, and Mr. Alfred Rogers, of the University Library, Cambridge.

The General Index to the first three Series of 'The Ibis' was completed and published in 1879.

At the same meeting, also, the project of a new List of British Birds was first brought forward. After consultation with some of my fellow-workers, I proposed that a Committee should be appointed to draw up, for the use of the writers in 'The Ibis,' a List of British Birds, in accordance with the most approved principles of modern nomenclature. This proposal was agreed to, and the following seven members of the Union were requested to serve on the Committee, viz. the two Editors of 'The Ibis' (Salvin and Selater), F. D. Godman (then Secretary of the Union), Dresser, Prof. Newton, Seebohm, and Henry Wharton; but Professor Newton subsequently excused himself from joining the Committee. The first meeting of this Committee was held on June 4th, 1878, when Selater was elected Chairman, and Wharton Secretary and General Editor. At a subsequent meeting of the Committee, Howard Saunders and R. Bowdler Sharpe were invited to join us. Altogether seventy-one meetings of the Committee were held, the etymology of the names adopted having been entrusted entirely to Henry Wharton, who was an excellent classical scholar.

The result of this plan was the well-known List of British Birds published by Van Voorst for the Union in 1883, and generally used by writers in 'The Ibis' ever since.

The second volume of the Fourth Series of 'The Ibis' (edited by Salvin and myself) contained 508 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, mostly executed by Kenlemaans and Smit. In it will be found several good papers by Lord Tweeddale, Layard and his son (who were at that time resident in New

Caledonia), Seebohm, and Blakiston. An important paper in this volume is the "Catalogue of the Birds of Japan," prepared by Captain Blakiston and Mr. Pryer. The breeding of the Sacred Ibis in the Zoological Society's Gardens in 1877 was duly chronicled by one of the Editors, and figures of the young bird and egg were given to illustrate it.

1879.

In 1879 the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on May the 7th, P. L. Selater in the Chair, and six new Members were elected. The accounts were examined and passed. It was announced by Mr. Salvin that the Index-volume to the first three Series of 'The Ibis' (1859-1876) was ready for issue, and it was agreed that copies of it should be sold to Members at £1 each. The usual Dinner after the Meeting took place at the Grosvenor Restaurant, Bond Street.

The third volume of the Fourth Series of 'The Ibis,' issued in 1879, forming the twenty-first volume of the whole work, contained 506 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans and Smit. In it will be found excellent articles by Gurney, Seebohm, and Tristram, and an account of the Birds of Ascension Island prepared by Mr. F. G. Penrose. The map attached to Mr. Danford's "Further Contributions to the Ornithology of Asia Minor" (plate ii. p. 81) shews how widely that excellent Naturalist extended his travels and explorations in that country.

1880.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1880 was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on May the 19th, Lord Lilford, President, in the Chair. Nine new Ordinary Members were elected. Herr H. Gätke, of Heligoland, was made an Honorary Member of the Union, and Mr. R. Ridgway, U.S.A., a Foreign Member. The accounts, examined and found correct by Henry Seebohm, were passed; they shewed a balance in hand of nearly £100. The Dinner after the

Meeting took place at the Grosvenor Restaurant, Bond Street.

The fourth volume of the Fourth Series of 'The Ibis,' edited by Salvin and myself in 1880, contained 496 pages, illustrated by 15 plates, drawn by our usual artists Keulemans and Smit. To this volume Captain Wardlaw-Ramsay contributed some excellent ornithological notes from Afghanistan, and Salvin described the last collection made by Henry Durnford in the northern provinces of the Argentine Republic. Durnford's researches were continued up to within a few days of his lamented death, which took place at Salta on the 11th of July, 1878.

1881.

In 1881 the Annual General Meeting of the Union was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on May the 18th, Lord Lilford, President, in the Chair, when twelve new Ordinary Members were elected. Two new Foreign Members, Colonel N. Prjevalsky and Dr. A. B. Meyer, were also elected. The accounts for 1880, shewing a balance of £97 in favour of the Union, were explained by Mr. Salvin, and passed. It was agreed that the List of British Birds prepared by the Committee appointed in 1879 should be printed as a separate volume at the expense of the B. O. U., and sold for the benefit of the Union.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1881, edited by Salvin and myself, was rather larger than those which preceded it, containing 627 pages, illustrated by 17 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. It commenced with an excellent *résumé* of the papers on the Anatomy and Classification of Birds, written by the late Professor Garrod, whose loss we had then lately suffered. This was prepared by W. A. Forbes, who succeeded him in the Prosectorship of the Zoological Society, and gives a full account of his predecessor's thirty-eight papers on these subjects.

Another important article in this volume was Major J. Biddulph's account of the Birds of Gilgit, a new locality as

regards Ornithology. In the same volume, also, will be found Forbes's account of his eleven weeks spent in Northern Brazil.

1882.

The Annual General Meeting of the Union in 1882 took place at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on May the 17th, P. L. Selater in the Chair, when nine new Members were elected. The accounts for 1881, shewing a balance in hand of £73, having been examined and found correct by Mr. J. E. Harting, were passed. Some discussion took place concerning the date of the Annual General Meeting, which, however, was left to the decision of the Committee.

Salvin announced that the Fourth Series of 'The Ibis' being completed with the volume of 1882, he did not propose to offer himself for re-election as one of the Editors for another series, and Mr. Godman intimated his wish to resign the Secretaryship. Under these circumstances, Howard Saunders was requested to join Selater in the Editorship of the next Series, and Mr. H. E. Dresser was elected Secretary.

The sixth volume of the Fourth Series of 'The Ibis' (edited by Salvin and myself), being the twenty-fourth of the whole work, contained 629 pages, illustrated by 14 coloured plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. An important article in this volume is that of Edgar Layard and his son on the Birds of New Caledonia, where they had been resident for more than five years.

The Roll of the British Ornithologists' Union, printed in the volume for 1882, shews that there were then 125 Ordinary Members, 1 Extra-Ordinary Member, 9 Honorary Members, and 19 Foreign Members in the List.

VI.—THE FIFTH SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1883–1888).

"Ibis avis robusta et multos vivit in annos."

(*Editors*: PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER and HOWARD SAUNDERS.)

1883.

I WAS very sorry to lose Salvin as my co-Editor of 'The Ibis,' for, as I have already stated, he was highly qualified for the post from every point of view. At the same time, in commencing work in 1883, I had the advantage of another fully competent partner. Howard Saunders, with whom Salvin had arranged to take the vacant post, was not only a leading authority on the Birds of Europe, but also an excellent writer of English and a well-known reviewer of literary works connected with Natural History.

The usual Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1883 was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on May the 30th, Lord Lilford, the President of the Union, being in the Chair. The accounts, examined by Howard Saunders and shewing a balance in favour of the Union of £38 at the close of the preceding year, having been passed, seven new Ordinary Members were balloted for and elected. Professor O. C. Marsh, of Newhaven, U.S.A., was also elected a Foreign Member of the Union. Henry Wharton, the Secretary to the Committee appointed in 1877 to prepare a List of British Birds, presented a Report on the work of that Committee and laid copies of the new List upon the table. The Report was adopted, and it was consequently agreed that the Committee be authorized to settle with Mr. Van Voorst as to the publishing price of the List of British Birds. The usual Dinner, which was held at the Grosvenor Restaurant, was attended by thirty Members of the B. O. U. and guests.

The first volume of the Fifth Series of 'The Ibis' (edited by Sclater and Saunders) contained 605 pages, illustrated by 14 plates, mostly drawn by Kenlemans and Smit. Amongst

the papers I may call special attention to the List of the Birds collected by the late W. A. Forbes during his fatal expedition to the Niger, prepared by Captain Shelley, and to Forbes's last Journal which accompanies it. Forbes died on the Niger near Shonga on the 14th of January, 1883.

1884.

In 1884 the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. was held at 6 Tenterden Street, on the 21st of May. The President (Lord Lilford) being absent through illness, P. L. Selater was voted to the Chair. The Report of the Committee having been read, and the accounts examined and passed, sixteen new Members were elected. The usual Dinner was held in the evening, and was attended by about thirty Members and guests.

The second volume of the Fifth Series of 'The Ibis' (edited by Saunders and myself) contained 489 pages, illustrated by 14 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Amongst the papers of special interest attention may be called to Mr. Abel Chapman's "Rough Notes on Spanish Ornithology," wherein the first authentic description of the nesting of the Flamingo in Southern Spain was published, accompanied by sketches of the parent bird on the nest.

1885.

In 1885 the Annual General Meeting of the Union took place at 6 Tenterden Street, where, in the absence of the President from illness, P. L. Selater was in the Chair. The Report of the Committee gave a satisfactory account of the finances at the close of the preceding year. More than half the heavy debt caused by the publication of 'The Ibis List of British Birds' had been paid off. The accounts having been passed, nine new Ordinary Members were elected. The Annual Dinner was subsequently held at the Café Royal and was attended by twenty-five Members and guests.

The third volume of the Fifth Series of 'The Ibis' (1885) contained 481 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, mostly executed

by Keulemans and Smit. A paper by Mr. J. Whitehead entitled "Ornithological Notes from Corsica" contains a description (accompanied by excellent figures of the bird and egg) of the remarkable Nuthatch of which he was the discoverer, and which worthily bears his name. A paper prepared by Salvin gives an account of the large series of Birds obtained by Mr. Henry Whitely in British Guiana.

1886.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1886 was held at 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, on May the 13th. In the absence of the President, the Chair was occupied by P. L. Selater. The Committee reported that the Union maintained its usual prosperity and that the remainder of the debt incurred through the publication of the List of British Birds had been entirely liquidated, so that there was a balance in hand, besides which the remaining stock of the List was an asset that need not be lost sight of. The Report having been adopted and the accounts passed, fifteen new Ordinary Members were balloted for and elected, besides which Dr. Julius von Madarász, of Buda-Pesth, was elected a Foreign Member, and Mr. Thomas Ayres, of Potchefstroom, Transvaal, an Honorary Member. After the Meeting the usual Dinner was held at the Café Royal, and was attended by twenty-eight Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1886 (being the fourth of the Fifth Series) contained 549 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Amongst these is an excellent figure of the Darter discovered by Canon Tristram breeding on the Lake of Antioch, which is referred to *Plotus levaillanti*. The figure was taken from Tristram's Syrian specimen and represents an adult bird in full plumage. There is also a figure of the fine Bird-of-Paradise (*Paradisornis rudolphi*), to illustrate a paper by Doctors O. Finsch and A. B. Meyer on "Some new Paradise-Birds."

1887.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1887 was held in Captain Shelley's room at 6 Tenterden Street, on May the 4th. In the absence of the President, the Chair was taken by P. L. Selater. The accounts, examined by Mr. Bidwell, having been passed and the Report of the Committee read and adopted, ten new Members were ballotted for and elected. The Secretary called the attention of the Members present to a petition against the extension of Close Time for Sea-birds in the North Riding of Yorkshire. After a long discussion on the subject it was agreed that, in the opinion of the Members of the B. O. U. present, an extension of the Close Time for Sea-birds on the east coast of England to the 1st of September would be highly desirable. The Annual Dinner was held after the Meeting at the Café Royal, and attended by thirty-two Members and guests.

The twenty-ninth volume of 'The Ibis,' being the fifth volume of the Fifth Series, contained 493 pages, illustrated by 14 plates, mostly executed by Keulemans. Amongst the papers of great interest is a memoir by Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe on the Birds collected by Mr. John Whitehead on Mount Kina Balu in Northern Borneo. Thirty-four species are described as belonging to the collection, amongst which is a remarkable new form of Dieruridae, proposed to be called *Chlamydochæra jefferyi*.

1888.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1888 was held in the rooms of the Zoological Society, 3 Hanover Square, on May the 16th. In the absence of the President through illness, the Chair was taken by Mr. W. T. Blanford. The Committee presented their report, which gave an explanation of the prosperous state of the finances. As the Fifth Series of 'The Ibis' would be completed by the issue of the volume for the current year, the question of the Editorship had been taken into consideration. The Committee regretted to say that Mr. Howard Saunders was

unable to continue as co-Editor, but that Mr. Selater had expressed his readiness to undertake the Editorship alone for the Sixth Series. A motion to that effect was proposed by Newton, seconded by Salvin, and carried unanimously. Thirteen new Members were then balloted for and elected. The Annual Dinner, held at the Café Royal, was attended by twenty-six Members and guests.

The thirtieth volume, being the sixth and concluding volume of the Fifth Series of 'The Ibis' (edited by Saunders and Selater), contained 513 pages, illustrated by 13 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Amongst other papers in this volume is one by W. K. Parker, on the claws in the wings of the Ratitæ, and a further account of the new birds discovered by Mr. Whitehead on Kina Balu in Northern Borneo, prepared by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe. A figure drawn by Keulemans of the magnificent species *Calyptomena whiteheadi* is also given.

At the end of the volume, besides the usual index, there will be found a General Index to the Fifth Series (1883 to 1888).

At the close of this Series of 'The Ibis' the Roll of the B. O. U. contained the names of 186 Ordinary Members, 1 Extra-Ordinary Member, 8 Honorary Members, and 20 Foreign Members.

VII.—THE SIXTH SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1889–1894).

“Cognovi omnia volatilia cœli.”

(*Editor*: PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER.)

1889.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the B. O. U. for 1889 was held at the rooms of the Zoological Society, on May the 8th. In the absence of the President from ill-health, P. L. Selater was requested to occupy the Chair. The accounts, which had been examined and found correct by Mr. Bidwell, having been passed, fourteen new Members were balloted for and

elected. The lease of the house, 6 Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, having expired, the Committee announced that the official headquarters of the Union for the present would be 18 Princes Street, Cavendish Square. The election of a new Secretary in place of Mr. H. E. Dresser, who was absent from England, but, as it was believed, wished to retire, was left in the hands of the Committee, who met subsequently and selected Mr. F. D. Godman for that office. The usual Dinner after the Meeting was held at the Café Royal and attended by thirty Members and guests.

The first volume of the Sixth Series of 'The Ibis,' which was completed in October 1889, contained 608 pages, illustrated by 16 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Amongst the papers in this volume will be found Dr. R. B. Sharpe's account of the Birds of Northern Borneo, and two articles by Dr. Guillemard and Lord Lilford on the Birds of Cyprus. A remarkable new species of Dendrocolaptine bird from the Lower Amazons is figured (by Keulemans) and described as *Berlepschia rikeri*.

1890.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1890 was held on May the 21st at the rooms of the Zoological Society, 3 Hanover Square, P. L. Selater being in the Chair in consequence of the absence of the President. The Report of the Committee was read and the accounts were passed. Thirteen new Ordinary Members were elected, likewise two new Honorary Members (Graf von Berlepsch and Count Tommaso Salvadori) and three Foreign Members (M. Emile Oustalet, Dr. Emin Pasha, and Mr. J. A. Allen). The Committee alluded with much regret to the recent death of Mr. John Henry Gurney, one of the original Members of the Union and a constant contributor to 'The Ibis.'

The second volume of the Sixth Series of 'The Ibis' (1890) contained 491 pages, illustrated by 14 plates, mostly executed by Keulemans. To this volume Whitehead made a valuable contribution on the Birds collected and observed

by him in the Island of Palawán, and Newton described and figured the young of Pallas's Sand-Grouse from a specimen obtained in Britain. Dr. R. B. Sharpe concluded his series of papers on the Ornithology of Northern Borneo by the issue of Part 10.

1891.

In 1891 the Annual Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union was held at the rooms of the Zoological Society of London on May the 9th. In the absence of the President from ill-health, the Chair was taken by Mr. Osbert Salvin. Nineteen new Ordinary Members were balloted for and elected, and the accounts for 1890, having been examined and found correct by Mr. J. E. Harting, and shewing a balance in favour of the Union of £103, were passed. The Annual Dinner, subsequently held at the Café Royal, was attended by twenty-six Members and guests.

The third volume of the Sixth Series of 'The Ibis,' issued in 1891, contained 664 pages, illustrated by 13 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Among the articles published in this volume are Mr. Lydekker's memoir on Fossil Birds, and an essay by Mr. W. Evans on the period of time occupied by Birds in the incubation of their Eggs. Mr. F. W. Styan also contributed a valuable paper on the Birds of the Lower Yangtse Basin.

1892.

The Annual General Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union in 1892 was held at the rooms of the Zoological Society of London on May 18th. In the absence of the President from ill-health, the Chair was taken by P. L. Selater. The accounts for the year 1891, examined and found correct by Mr. Salvin, were passed, and 18 new Members were elected.

The Annual Dinner, held at the Café Royal, was attended by 28 Members and guests. After the dinner a proposition was made that an Ornithological Club should be established for the purpose of holding monthly meetings at which

papers should be read and specimens exhibited. A Committee, consisting of the Earl of Gainsborough, Mr. Seebohm, Mr. Howard Saunders, Mr. Bidwell, and Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, was appointed to consider the advisability of carrying out the proposed scheme.

I do not recollect that this Committee ever formally met, but the plan of forming an Ornithological Club, which was entirely due to Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, was fully discussed among us in the summer of 1892. At first, I confess, I was not much inclined to favour it, but, after talking it over with Howard Saunders, gave it my full adhesion and attended the inaugural meeting which was held at the Mona Hotel, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, on October 5th, 1892. Here I was placed in the Chair, Howard Saunders was elected Secretary and Treasurer, and Dr. Bowdler Sharpe Editor of the 'Bulletin,' in which the proceedings of the Club were to be chronicled. The Rules of the Club then adopted are given at the end of this "Short History."

I need hardly add that this movement, which has brought together all the more active workers in our favourite science, has met with most remarkable success. The meetings of the B. O. C. are invariably well attended, and communications on Birds and Bird-life are numerous and embrace every branch of the subject. The 'Bulletin' for every Session since 1892-93 has been issued with perfect regularity, and has now reached its twenty-first volume. As will be seen by the List in that volume, more than 200 Members of the Union now belong to the Club. During the 16th Session (1907-8) the total number of attendances at the B. O. C. was 374, or, on an average, about 44 per meeting.

Until 1901 the 'Bulletin' of the B. O. C. was reprinted in 'The Ibis.' After that date (that is, from the commencement of the Eighth Series) this practice was discontinued, being thought to be no longer necessary.

In 1904 Dr. Sharpe handed over the Editorship of the 'Bulletin' to Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, and Mr. H. F.

Witherby was appointed Secretary and Treasurer in Mr. Grant's place.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1892 (being the fourth volume of the Sixth Series) contains 614 pages, illustrated by 14 coloured plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. The volume commences with a list of the Birds of Heligoland, a most useful *résumé* for reference, prepared by Seebohm from Gütke's then lately published volume, 'Die Vogelwarte Helgolands.' Other important papers in this volume are those by Mr. Graham Kerr on the Birds of the Lower Pileomayo and by Mr. J. La Touche on the Birds of Foochow and Swatow, China.

1893.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1893 was held at the Zoological Society's Office, 3 Hanover Square, on May the 3rd, P. L. Selater in the Chair (in the absence of the President). The Report of the Committee was read, and the accounts for 1892, which had been examined and found correct by Mr. Howard Saunders, were approved. The balance carried forward to January 1st, 1903, was £105. Eighteen new Ordinary Members of the Union were balloted for and elected. Dr. Anton Reichenow, of Berlin, was balloted for and elected an Honorary Member. After the Meeting the usual Dinner was held at Limmer's Hotel and was attended by thirty-two Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1893, being the fifth volume of the Sixth Series (edited by P. L. Selater), contains 626 pages, illustrated by 15 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Among the more important papers in this volume are Lieut. Barnes's account of the Birds of Aden, Dr. Hartert's essay on the Birds of the Curaçao Group in the West Indies, and Mr. H. O. Forbes's List of the Birds of the Chatham Islands.

The 'Bulletins' of the British Ornithologists' Club (Nos. I.-X.) are reprinted in this volume.

1894.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1894 was held at the Zoological Society's Office, 3 Hanover Square, on May 9th. In the absence of the President, the Chair was occupied by P. L. Selater. The accounts of 1893, having been examined and found correct by Mr. Harting, were passed. After payment of all expenses a balance of £50 was carried forward for 1894. Seventeen new Ordinary Members were elected. Dr. H. Giglioli, of Florence, was elected an Honorary Member, and Dr. Menzbier, of Moscow, Dr. Th. Pleske, of St. Petersburg, and Herr Schalow, of Berlin, were elected Foreign Members of the Union.

It was agreed that a new (Seventh) series of 'The Ibis' should be commenced in 1895, and Mr. P. L. Selater and Mr. Howard Saunders were appointed Joint Editors of it.

The question of a General Index for the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Series of 'The Ibis' was discussed and referred to the Committee.

The Annual Dinner, held at Limmer's Hotel, was attended by twenty-seven Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1894 (edited by P. L. Selater), being the sixth and last volume of the Sixth Series and the thirty-sixth of the whole work, contained 609 pages, illustrated by 15 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. In it will be found Mr. Aplin's account of the Birds of Uruguay and several of Capt. Shelley's articles on the Birds of Nyasaland. To one of the latter is attached a beautiful figure by Keulemans of *Agapornis lilianæ*.

A General Subject-Index to the Sixth Series of 'The Ibis' is attached to this volume.

The roll of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union given in this volume contains the names of 255 Ordinary Members, 1 Extra-Ordinary Member, 10 Honorary Members, and 20 Foreign Members.

VIII.—THE SEVENTH SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1895-1900).

"Non moriar, sed vivam, et narrabo opera Domini."

(Editors: PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER and HOWARD SAUNDERS.)

1895.

THE Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1895 was held at 3 Hanover Square, London, on May the 8th, the Chair being occupied, in the absence of the President, by P. L. Sclater. The Committee gave a good report of the state of the finances for 1894, shewing a balance of £84 in favour of the Union after payment of all expenses. The question of the preparation of an Index for the last three Series of 'The Ibis,' and also of a Subject-Index for the whole of the published Series, was stated to be still under the consideration of the Committee. The Report of the Committee was adopted and the accounts of 1894, having been examined by Mr. J. E. Harting and found correct, were passed. It was then agreed that the Committee be authorized to proceed with the proposed Indices at once. Nineteen candidates for the Ordinary Membership were balloted for and declared to be duly elected, amongst whom was H. R. H. Ferdinand, Prince of Bulgaria. The usual Dinner, after the Meeting, was held at Limmer's Hotel and was attended by twenty-nine Members and guests.

Having secured such an excellent partner as Howard Saunders, I commenced the Editorship of the Seventh Series of 'The Ibis' with a light heart, and selected as its motto what I consider a very appropriate quotation from the Vulgate: "Non moriar, sed vivam, et narrabo opera Domini."

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1895, being the first of the Seventh Series, contained 529 pages, illustrated by 14 plates, drawn mostly by Keulemans. Two valuable papers by Mr. Pyeraft on the Pterylography of the Tinamous and the Hoatzin will be found in this volume, as also an excellent figure of both sexes of the peculiar Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula leucogenis*) discovered in the Philippines by Whitehead.

1896.

In the year 1896, the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. was held on the 22nd of April, at 3 Hanover Square, where, in the absence of the President, the Chair was taken by P. L. Selater. The Report of the Committee, which announced the continued prosperity of the Union, and the statement of accounts for 1895, which had been examined and found correct by Mr. Harting, were received and adopted. Twenty-nine new Ordinary Members were balloted for and elected, and Herluf Winge, of Copenhagen, was elected a Foreign Member. It was agreed that if the Committee should so determine, a second General Meeting of the B. O. U. might be held some time in October or November in any year. The Dinner after the Meeting, held at Limmer's Hotel, was attended by twenty-eight Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1896 (edited by Selater and Saunders), being the second volume of the Seventh Series, contained 623 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, chiefly drawn by Keulemans. An important paper by Colonel Yerbury gave further notes on the Birds of Aden, and a remarkable new Blackbird, discovered by Mr. E. Lort Phillips in Somaliland, was figured as *Merula ludovicie*.

1897.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1897 took place at the Zoological Society's Office, 3 Hanover Square, on the 5th of May, P. L. Selater in the Chair. The Report of the Committee announced the continued prosperity of the Union, which on that day had 283 Members. The General Index of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Series of 'The Ibis' (1877-1894), edited by Osbert Salvin and prepared under his superintendence, had been completed and would shortly be ready for distribution. The Report was adopted and the accounts, which had been examined by Mr. Harting and found correct, were passed. Twenty-four new Ordinary Members were balloted for and elected.

The office of President, being vacant by the much-lamented death of the late Lord Lilford, an original member of the Union, who had held it for nineteen years, was filled by the election of Mr. Frederick DuCane Godman, and Mr. Osbert Salvin was elected Secretary in place of Mr. Godman, who retired from that office.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1897 (being the third volume of the Seventh Series) contained 659 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Amongst the plates will be found figures of the male of a wonderful new Nuthatch (*Sitta magna*) discovered by Col. Wardlaw-Ramsay in the Southern Shan States, and of a splendid new Paradise-Bird (*Macgregoria pulchra*) from British New Guinea.

1898.

In 1898 the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. was held at the Zoological Society's Office, 3 Hanover Square, on May the 11th, Dr. F. D. Godman, President, in the Chair. Thirty-two Members were present. The Committee reported that the General Index of 'The Ibis' for the years 1877-1894 (that is, for the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Series), forming a volume of 471 pages, had been issued. The accounts for the year 1897 were examined and passed. Twenty-seven new Ordinary Members were balloted for and elected, and Dr. E. A. Goeldi, of Pará, was elected an Honorary Member.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1898, edited by Selater and Saunders (being the fourth volume of the Seventh Series), contained 656 pages, illustrated by 13 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans. Amongst the papers will be found Mr. Boyd Alexander's account of his Ornithological Expedition to the Cape Verde Islands, and Mr. H. L. Popham's notes on the Birds observed during his second expedition to the Yenesei River in Siberia.

1899.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1899 was held at 3 Hanover Square, on May the 3rd, F. D. Godman, President, in the Chair. The Committee reported that they had found that the state of the finances would justify them in proceeding with the Subject-Index of 'The Ibis' from 1859 to 1894, the manuscript of which had been completed for some time, and that they had therefore commenced to print it and hoped that it would be ready for issue before the end of the year.

The accounts of the Union for 1898, which had been audited by Mr. H. E. Dresser, were examined and passed, and twenty-five new Ordinary Members were ballotted for and elected.

The usual Dinner after the Meeting was held at Limmer's Hotel, and was attended by twenty-three Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1899, being the fifth volume of the Seventh Series (edited by Sclater and Saunders), contained 694 pages, illustrated by 13 plates, mostly the work of Keulemans. Amongst the more important papers were four articles containing the Field-Notes of the late John Whitehead during his last journey in the Philippine Islands, illustrated by a map to shew his itinerary. Whitehead died in Hainan on June 2nd, 1899.

1900.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1900 was held at 3 Hanover Square on May the 16th, F. D. Godman, President, in the Chair. The Committee announced that the Subject-Index for the first six Series of 'The Ibis,' 1859-1894, edited by Mr. Oates, had been completed and distributed to the subscribers in the preceding January. The accounts of the Union for 1899 had been audited by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant and were passed as correct. Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe and Mr. E. Hartert were selected to represent the B. O. U. at the International Ornithological

Congress proposed to be held at Paris on June the 26th. Twenty-six new Ordinary Members of the Union were ballotted for and elected. The name of Professor R. Collett was transferred from the List of Foreign Members to that of Honorary Members, and the following three gentlemen were elected Foreign Members of the Union:—Dr. V. Bianchi, Dr. Othmar Reiser, and Mr. Leonhard Stejneger.

The year 1900 being the last of the six years of the Seventh Series, the subject of the future editorship of 'The Ibis' was discussed, and it was agreed that Messrs. P. L. Selater and A. H. Evans should be requested to undertake the Editorship of the Eighth Series, to commence in 1901.

At the close of the Seventh Series the roll of the B. O. U. contained the names of 344 Ordinary Members, 2 Extra-Ordinary Members, 10 Honorary Members, and 18 Foreign Members—374 Members in all.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1900, being the sixth and last volume of the Seventh Series, contained 728 pages, illustrated by 14 plates, drawn by Keulemans, Grünvold, Lodge, and Smit. Amongst the papers were an article by Mr. R. Hall on the Birds of Kerguelen Island, and a series of Notes on the Birds of Mashona-land prepared by Mr. Guy A. K. Marshall. A good figure was given of both sexes of the rare *Merganser squamatus* from China, of which the female only was previously known.

IX.—THE EIGHTH SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1901–1906).

“Quam magnificata sunt opera tua, Domine.”

(*Editors*: PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER and
ARTHUR HUMBLE EVANS.)

1901.

THE Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1901 was held at 3 Hanover Square on the 15th of May, F. DuCane Godman, President, in the Chair. The Minutes of the last General Meeting having been read and confirmed, the

accounts for the year 1900, which had been audited by Mr. Howard Saunders, were passed. The Committee reported that the state of the finances was satisfactory, and that the remaining debt upon the Subject-Index had been finally disposed of. Thirteen candidates were balloted for and elected Ordinary Members. Mr. Howard Saunders was elected Secretary in place of Mr. E. W. Oates, who retired from that post. The usual Dinner, held at Limmer's Hotel, was attended by twenty-nine Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1901 contained 782 pages, illustrated by 15 plates, mostly drawn by Keulemans, Lodge, and Smit. Among the more important papers are Mr. H. F. Witherby's account of his ornithological expedition to the White Nile, Mr. W. Goodfellow's journey through Colombia and Ecuador, and Colonel Rippon's memoir on the Birds of the Southern Shan States, in which 431 species are enumerated.

1902.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1902 was held at 3 Hanover Square on the 14th of May, the Chair being taken by P. L. Selater, in the absence of the President. The accounts for the year 1901, audited by Mr. H. E. Dresser, were passed, and a vote of thanks was accorded to the Auditor. The Committee reported a favourable state of the finances of the Union for the year 1901, a sum of £76 having been carried over for the benefit of 1902. Twenty-eight new Ordinary Members were elected. It was agreed that a new class of members, to be called "Colonial Members," should be instituted; such Members to be eminent ornithologists residing in the British Colonies and India, and not to exceed ten in number. The name of Professor S. F. Radde was transferred from the list of Foreign Members to that of Honorary Members, and Mr. F. M. Chapman, U.S.A., Dr. P. Sushkin, of Moscow, and Dr. H. von Ihering, of São Paulo, Brazil, were elected Foreign Members of the Union. The usual Dinner after the Meeting was held at Limmer's Hotel, and attended by twenty-one Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1902, being the forty-fourth of the whole issue, contained 707 pages, illustrated by 16 plates, mostly the work of Keulemans, Grönvold, and Goodechild. Amongst the papers I may call special attention to Mr. W. Eagle Clarke's interesting account of his month's residence in the Eddystone Lighthouse, and his study of the phenomena of migration as there observed, also to Mr. Boyd Alexander's memoir on the Birds of the Gold Coast Colony.

1903.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1903 took place at 3 Hanover Square on the 13th of May, F. DuCane Godman, President, in the Chair. The accounts for the year 1902, which had been audited by Mr. F. Gillett, were examined and passed, and a vote of thanks accorded to the Auditor. The Report of the Committee was read and adopted, and twenty new Ordinary Members were balloted for and elected. The name of Mr. Robert Ridgway was transferred from the List of Foreign to that of Honorary Members. Captain F. W. Hutton, of New Zealand, Colonel W. Vincent Legge, of Tasmania, and Mr. Alfred J. North, of Sydney, N.S.W., were elected Colonial Members of the Union, and Dr. G. Martorelli, of Milan, was elected a Foreign Member. After the Meeting the usual Dinner was held at Limmer's Hotel, and attended by seventeen Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1903, being the third volume of the Eighth Series, contained 668 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, drawn by Keulemans, Grönvold, Goodechild, and other artists. Among the more important articles was that by Mr. Boyd Alexander on the Birds of Fernando Po, in which 104 species were enumerated. Other interesting papers were those by Capt. H. A. Walton on the Birds of Peking and by Mr. J. L. Bonhote on the Birds of the Bahamas.

1904.

In 1904 the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. was held at 3 Hanover Square, on the 11th of May, F. DuCane Godman, President, in the Chair. The accounts for the year 1903, which had been audited by Mr. Dresser and shewed a balance of £36 carried over to 1904, were examined and passed. The Report of the Committee was read and adopted. It pointed out with satisfaction that no outstanding accounts had been left unpaid at the end of the past year. Thirty-one gentlemen were then balloted for and elected Ordinary Members of the Union, and Mr. A. J. Campbell, of Melbourne, was elected a Colonial Member, while Dr. W. Blasius, of Brunswick, was elected a Foreign Member. The Annual Dinner subsequently held at the Trocadero Restaurant was attended by twenty-four Members and one guest.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1904, being the fourth volume of the Eighth Series and the forty-sixth of the whole work, contained 701 pages, illustrated by 12 plates, mostly the work of Keulemans, Goodchild, and Grönvold. Amongst other papers of interest in this volume will be found an account of Mr. W. Eagle Clarke's Results of Observations on Migration made on board the Kentish Knock Lightship in the Autumn of 1903, and Dr. Hartert's account of the Birds collected by Mr. Robert Hall, of Melbourne, on the Lena River in North-eastern Siberia.

1905.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. in 1905 was held on the 24th of May at 3 Hanover Square. In the absence of the President, who was abroad, the Chair was taken by P. L. Selater. The Report of the Committee announced the continued prosperity of the Union during the past year. The Balance Sheet to December the 31st, which had been examined and found correct by Mr. H. F. Witherby, shewed that after payment of all liabilities a balance of £98

had been carried over to 1905. Twenty-four candidates for the Ordinary Membership were balloted for and elected, and Mr. J. Macoun, of Ottawa, Canada, and Mr. A. D. Millar, of Durban, were elected Colonial Members. Mr. Harry C. Oberholser, of Washington, U.S.A., was elected a Foreign Member of the Union. The usual Dinner after the Meeting was held at the Frascati Restaurant in conjunction with the B. O. Club.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1905, being the fifth volume of the Eighth Series, contained 677 pages, illustrated by 13 plates drawn by Keulemans, Grönvold, Goodchild, and other artists. Among the more important papers will be found Mr. W. P. Pycraft's article on the systematic position of *Zeledonia coronata*, and Mr. W. Eagle Clarke's account of the Birds of Gough Island in the South Atlantic Ocean. Mr. A. L. Butler made his first contribution to the Ornithology of the Sudan to this volume, and enumerated 330 species which he had there met with. Another important paper is that of Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant on the display of the Lesser Bird-of-Paradise, which is well illustrated by Mr. Lodge's drawings.

1906.

The Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. for 1906 was held at 3 Hanover Square on the 30th of May, the Chair being occupied, in the absence of the President, by P. L. Selater. The accounts for 1905, which had been audited by Mr. F. Gillett, were passed. They shewed that after payment of all liabilities a balance of £104 had been carried forward to 1906. The Report of the Committee was read and adopted. Twenty-five candidates for the Ordinary Membership were balloted for and elected. Dr. J. Büttikofer, of Rotterdam, and Mr. S. A. Buturlin, of Wesenberg, were balloted for and elected Foreign Members of the Union. The Eighth Series of 'The Ibis' being about to be completed, it was agreed to commence a Ninth Series in 1907, and to request Messrs. Selater and Evans to continue as Editors of the new series, to which they both consented.

On the motion of Mr. E. Bidwell, seconded by Mr. H. J. Elwes, it was unanimously resolved that the Committee be requested to consider the advisability of commemorating the Jubilee of the B. O. U. in 1908, and to report their opinion to the next Annual Meeting.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1906, being the sixth and last volume of the Eighth Series, contained 769 pages, illustrated by 21 plates, drawn by Keulemans, Grönvold, and other artists. Among the more important papers are those by Captain H. J. Walton on the Birds of Southern Tibet, and by Mr. W. Eagle Clarke on the Birds of the South Orkney Islands, based on the collection made by the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition. Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant described in this volume the remarkable collection made by Mr. Walter Goodfellow on the volcano of Apo in South-eastern Mindanao, Philippine Islands, and Mr. F. J. Jackson contributed an account of the Birds collected by Mr. Geoffrey Archer on the Ruwenzori Range.

At the close of the year 1906 there were 417 Ordinary Members, 2 Extra-Ordinary Members, 9 Honorary Members, 5 Colonial Members, and 20 Foreign Members of the B. O. U.

X.—THE NINTH SERIES OF 'THE IBIS' (1907–1908).

"Delectasti me, Domine, in operibus manuum tuarum."

(*Editors*: PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER and
ARTHUR HUMBLE EVANS.)

1907.

IN 1907 the Annual General Meeting of the B. O. U. was held at 3 Hanover Square on the 29th of May, F. DuCane Godman, President, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last General Meeting having been read and confirmed, the Statement of the Accounts for 1906, which had been audited by Mr. Munt, was passed. After payment of all liabilities for 1906 the balance carried

forward to 1907 was £91. Twenty-two candidates for the Ordinary Membership were balloted for and elected, and the name of Dr. J. A. Allen was transferred from the List of Foreign Members to that of Honorary Members, while Mr. C. F. M. Swynnerton, of Gungunyama, Melsester, South Rhodesia, was elected a Colonial Member of the Union. The Committee appointed at the last Annual General Meeting to prepare a scheme to commemorate the Jubilee of the B. O. U. in 1908 recommended that the proposed Jubilee Meeting should be held at Cambridge in the beginning of November, 1908. This was approved of, and it was agreed

That it be an instruction to the Committee to prepare a short account of the foundation of the Union and of the work of its early Members; and that this account be illustrated by photographs of the Members included in it, and be published in the fiftieth volume of 'The Ibis.'

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1907, being the first volume of the Ninth Series and the forty-ninth of the whole work, contained 685 pages, illustrated by 13 plates and maps. Among the more important papers in this volume are Mr. Swynnerton's article on the Birds of Southern Rhodesia, and that of Messrs. Ogilvie-Grant and J. D. La Touche on the Birds of the Island of Formosa, which is illustrated by a beautiful plate of a new Gold-crest (*Regulus goodfellowi*). In this volume also is published the third article, by Mr. W. Eagle Clarke, on the ornithological results of the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition. It relates specially to the Birds of the Weddell Sea, and finishes the series on this subject.

1908.

The Annual General Meeting of the Union for 1908 was held at 3 Hanover Square on May the 20th, F. DuCane Godman, President, in the Chair. The Report of the

Committee announced the continued prosperity of the Union, and stated that after payment of all expenses for 1907 a sum of £198 had been carried forward for the benefit of the present year. In consequence of the lamented death of Professor Newton, the Committee proposed that the Jubilee Meeting should take place in London, instead of Cambridge, about the second week in December. This was agreed to, and Messrs. Bidwell, Dresser, Meade-Waldo, Walter Rothschild, D. Seth-Smith, and Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe were requested to form a joint Committee along with the ordinary members of Committee to make the necessary arrangements for the Jubilee Meeting.

The vacancy in the Secretaryship caused by the lamented death of Mr. Howard Saunders was filled by the election of Mr. J. Lewis Bonhote to that office.

Twenty-five candidates were balloted for and elected Ordinary Members of the Union. Mr. J. H. J. Farquhar, of Southern Nigeria, and Mr. Robert Hall, of Tasmania, were elected Colonial Members, and Mr. C. W. Richmond, of Washington, D.C., was elected a Foreign Member of the Union. It was resolved that the President and Secretary, on behalf of the Union, should sign a Petition to the House of Lords in favour of the "Bill to prohibit the importation of the Plumage and Skins of Wild Birds."

The usual Dinner after the Meeting took place at Pagani's Restaurant, and was attended by 52 Members and guests.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1908, being the second of the Ninth Series and the fiftieth of the whole work, contained 660 pages. It was concluded in October 1908, by the issue of the two-hundredth number. The volume is illustrated by 13 plates and maps (drawn by Keulemans, Grönvold, and other artists), amongst which is a figure, the work of Major Jones, of both sexes of the newly discovered Mikado Pheasant of Formosa (*Calophasis mikado*). In it will also be found an important paper by Mr. C. F. M. Swynnerton, containing further notes on the Birds of Gazaland, and Mr. H. E. Dresser's account of the Russian Arctic Expedition of 1900-1903.

As will be seen by the Register of Members in the fiftieth volume, the total number of Members of the Union at the close of 1908 was 473. Of these, 434 are Ordinary Members, 2 are Extra-Ordinary Members, 10 are Honorary Members, 8 are Colonial Members, and 19 are Foreign Members.

APPENDIX.

I.—*Rules of the British Ornithologists' Union.*

*Agreed to at the General Meeting held 10th May, 1871,
with amendments up to 14th May, 1902, inclusive.*

1. This Society shall be called "The British Ornithologists' Union," and shall have for its object the advancement of the Science of Ornithology.

2. The British Ornithologists' Union shall consist of Ordinary Members, Honorary Members, Extra-Ordinary Members, Colonial Members, and Foreign Members.

Ordinary Members shall be Ornithologists of any country, elected in the manner hereinafter mentioned.

Honorary Members shall be eminent Ornithologists residing abroad, and shall not exceed ten in number.

An Honorary Member coming to reside in this country shall become an Extra-Ordinary Member, unless he prefers to be placed upon the list of Ordinary Members.

Colonial Members shall be eminent Ornithologists residing in the British Colonies and India, and shall not exceed ten in number.

Foreign Members shall be eminent Foreign Ornithologists, and shall not exceed twenty in number.

3. Ordinary Members shall be elected by Ballot at the Annual General Meeting. No person shall be declared duly elected unless two-thirds of the number of Members balloting shall vote in his favour. Ordinary Members only are entitled to vote. Honorary, Colonial, and Foreign

Members, when there are vacancies in the list, shall be elected in the same way.

4. No person shall be balloted for whose name shall not have been proposed on a form provided for the purpose by the Secretary and signed by the Proposer, on his personal knowledge, and by two other Members. The list of Candidates, with their Proposers and Seconders, shall be circulated among the Members along with the summonses for the General Meeting.

5. Every new Ordinary Member shall pay an Entrance Fee of £2, and an Annual Subscription of £1 on his election, and every Ordinary Member shall pay an Annual Subscription of £1 on the 1st of January of each year. Every new Ordinary Member failing to pay his Entrance Fee and his first Annual Subscription before the 31st of December immediately following his election shall have his election annulled, unless he shall furnish a satisfactory explanation.

6. Any Member whose subscription is three years in arrears shall, *ipso facto*, cease to belong to the British Ornithologists' Union, but shall be eligible for re-election by Ballot on paying up his arrears. In such case, however, no fee for re-admission shall be required.

7. The funds derived from entrance fees and annual subscriptions shall be devoted primarily to the publication of 'The Ibis.'

8. Should the sum thus obtained be insufficient to cover the liability incurred, the deficit shall be raised by an additional subscription, to be levied at the ensuing General Meeting.

9. The Editor of 'The Ibis' shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and his appointment shall continue for six years, unless otherwise determined. Twelve months' notice of a change must be given on either side.

10. The business of the British Ornithologists' Union shall be conducted by a Committee, consisting of a President, Secretary, Editor or Editors of 'The Ibis'; and three Members to be elected at the General Meeting. One of the non-official Members shall retire in each year.

11. The Annual General Meeting shall take place on some convenient day in the month of April or May, to be fixed by the Committee; and the ordinary business transacted at such Meeting shall be the passing of the accounts of 'The Ibis' for the preceding year, the regulation of matters having reference to the conduct of that Journal, the election of the Officers and Committee, and the election of new Members.

12. A Special General Meeting can be summoned by any ten Members of the British Ornithologists' Union by a written requisition addressed to the Committee for that purpose, which requisition shall specify the object of such Special Meeting. At such Special Meeting, however, the special business to consider which it was convened shall alone be discussed.

13. One copy of 'The Ibis' shall be delivered to every Honorary and Extra-Ordinary Member gratis, and also to every Ordinary Member whose subscription is not in arrear.

14. Twenty-five separate copies are furnished to each contributor of an article to 'The Ibis,' gratis. Contributors may have further copies on application to the Editor, on paying the expenses incurred in producing them.

The original paging of the letterpress and numbering of the plates shall always be retained in the separate copies, as also the signatures of the sheets; but additional paging and numbering may be likewise added, if required.

Separate copies shall in every case bear on the title-page the name and date of the publication from which they are extracted. No alteration shall be made in the letterpress or plates of the separate copies without the leave of the Committee of the Union.

15. Any alterations in these rules may be made at the Annual General Meeting, provided due notice shall have been given thereof in the circular convening the Meeting.

II.—*Rules of the British Ornithologists' Club.*

As amended 16th October, 1907.

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *One Pound* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session, shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion*.

IV. No gentleman shall be allowed to attend the Meetings of the Club as a guest on more than three occasions during any single Session.

V. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

VI. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. U. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VII. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.
